

Amendment to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 13. This sheet, which includes Figure 13, replaces the previous Replacement Sheet including Figure 13. In Figure 13, the electromagnet has been placed in the seal plate 100.

REMARKS

The Office Action dated may 26, 2005 has been received and carefully studied.

The Examiner objects to the drawings because they show new matter. The Examiner states that Figure 13 of the replacement drawings shows the electromagnet separate from the seal plate 100, whereas the specification states that the electromagnet is positioned in seal plate 100. Submitted herewith is corrected Figure 13 drawing sheet showing the electromagnet positioned in seal plate 100. It is believed that the replacement drawing overcomes the objection.

The Examiner rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Perdue, U.S. Patent No. 1,673,018.

By the accompanying amendment, claim 1 has been amended to recite the step of using gas pressure to force the valve towards the valve seat.

In contrast, the Perdue valve creates a seal by allowing the valve to sit in a water trough. This water seal is broken by actuating a lever, against gravity, to raise the valve. Nowhere does Perdue disclose or suggest using gas pressure to cause the valve to move toward a valve seat as now recited in claim 1.

The allowability of claims 11-14 is noted with appreciation.

New claims have been added to further define the invention.

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing.

Respectfully submitted,


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